Department of Permits and Development Management 111 West Chesapeake Avenue Towson, Maryland 21204

In the Matter of

Civil Citation No. 75928

1528 Old Eastern Avenue LLC David F. Clinnin R/A 400 W. Pennsylvania Avenue Towson MD 21204

1528 Old Eastern Avenue

Respondent

FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW FINAL ORDER OF THE CODE ENFORCEMENT HEARING OFFICER

This matter came before the Baltimore County Code Enforcement Hearing Officer on May 26, 2010, for a Hearing on a citation for violations of the Baltimore County Code (BCC) section 35-2-404, 13-7-310, 312; Baltimore County Zoning Regulations (BCZR) section 101, 102.1, 1B01.1D, failure to cease use of property as an open dump on residential property zoned BL known as 1528 Old Eastern Avenue, 21221.

On April 28, 2010, pursuant to § 3-6-205, Baltimore County Code, Inspector Christina Frink issued a Code Enforcement & Inspections Citation. The citation was sent to the Respondent by 1st class mail to the last known address listed in the Maryland State Tax Assessment files.

The citation proposed a civil penalty of \$1,800.00 (one thousand eight hundred dollars).

The following persons appeared for the Hearing and testified: Steve Kang, General Contractor for Ink Builders and, Christina Frink, Baltimore County Code Enforcement Officer.

After proper consideration of all the evidence presented, the Hearing Officer finds:

- A. A Correction Notice was issued on April 19, 2010 for removal of open dump/junk yard, remove trash, rubbish and debris. This Citation was issued on April 28, 2010.
- B. Inspector Christina Frink testified that this is a commercial property owned by a limited liability corporation. Photographs in the file show piles of bricks and stones next to the building. Photographs show a dumpster next to the building. Junk and trash are on the ground including old tires. This violates prohibitions against the accumulation of junk, trash and debris on private property. BCC Section 13-4-201. This also constitutes an open dump, which under the County's Zoning Regulations is not a permitted use on this property. BCZR Section 101.1 (Open Dump: "Any land ... on which there is deposit and accumulation, either temporary or permanent, of any kind of organic or inorganic refuse...").
- C. Steve Kang, representing general contractor INK Builders, testified that his firm was doing renovation work on the building but that the property owner had suspended the project. The bricks and stones are being saved for later backfill. Junk and trash such as the tires were dumped at the property by unknown persons.
- D. The property owner has a responsibility to keep this property cleaned up. The dumpster and piles of bricks and rocks cannot be left outside while the renovation work is suspended. Because compliance is the goal of code enforcement, the civil penalty will be rescinded if the violations are corrected within the time provided below.

IT IS ORDERED by the Code Enforcement Hearing Officer that a civil penalty be imposed in the amount of \$1,800.00 (one thousand eight hundred dollars).

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the civil penalty will be RESCINDED and reduced to zero dollars if the violations are corrected by June 28, 2010.

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IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that if not paid within thirty days of billing, the civil penalty, as authorized above, shall be imposed and placed as a lien upon the property.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the County inspect the property to determine whether the violations have been corrected.

ORDERED this 10th day of June 2010

Signed: ORIGINAL SIGNED

Margaret Z. Ferguson

Baltimore County Hearing Officer

NOTICE TO RESPONDENT: The Respondent is advised that (1) pursuant to §3-6-206(g)(2) of the Baltimore County Code, the Respondent may make written application to the Director of the Department of Permits & Development Management within 10 days to modify or amend this order and (2) pursuant to §3-6-301(a), Baltimore County Code, the Respondent may appeal this order to the Baltimore County Board of Appeals within fifteen (15) days from the date of this order; any such appeal requires the filing of a petition setting forth the grounds for appeal, payment of a filing fee of \$150 and the posting of security to satisfy the penalty assessed.

MZF/jaf